

PATENT
Customer Number 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 7040.0087-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:)
Riccardo CESARINI et al.)
Serial No.: 09/859,507) Group Art Unit: 1733
Filed: May 18, 2001) Examiner: Maki, S.
For: TYRE FOR VEHICLE WHEELS)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Enclosed is a reply to the Office Action mailed December 26, 2002. The items checked below are attached:

- ☒ Second Preliminary Amendment; and
- ☒ Response to Restriction Requirement.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

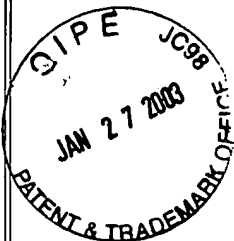
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 27, 2003

By: 
Michael L. Woods
Reg. No. 50,811

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Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Applicants submit this Response to Restriction Requirement, accompanied by a Second Preliminary Amendment, in reply to the Office Action mailed December 26, 2002. The period for response runs through Monday, January 27, 2003.

Restriction Requirement

In the Second Preliminary Amendment, Applicants cancel, without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 16-30, and add new claims 31-45, to improve clarity. The originally filed specification, claims, abstract, and drawings fully support the addition of new claims 31-45. No new matter was introduced.

In the Office Action, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between:

Group I, claims 16-26, 28, and 29, characterized by the Examiner as drawn to a tire; and

Group II, claims 27 and 30, characterized by the Examiner as drawn to a method. New

claims 31-41, 43, and 44 correspond to Group I, and new claims 42 and 45 correspond to

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Group II. Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, to prosecute Group I, new claims 31-41, 43, and 44.

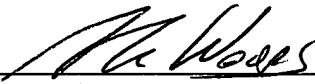
Regarding traverse of the restriction requirement, Applicants submit that the search and examination of this entire application can be made without serious burden. As such, MPEP § 803, ¶ 2, requires that the Examiner examine this entire application on the merits.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 27, 2003

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SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above-captioned application, please amend this
application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel, without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 16-30, and add new claims 31-45,
as follows:

SUB
CB
--31. (new) A tyre for a vehicle wheel, comprising:
a tread band;
wherein the tread band comprises:
a tread pattern;
wherein the tread pattern is defined between two shoulder ends of the tyre,

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